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PASTOR'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On June 11th, 12th and 13th the Beargrass Baptist church of which I am pastor celebrated my twenty-third anniversary. On the 16th of March 1880 I was called to the pastorate of this church and have tried every since to serve them faithfully and earnestly; if God will be with me I mean to continue to be faithful. Many prayers have I prayed, many tears have I shed for the prosperity of Zion in this place. We of course had our bitters with our sweets; but the one thing that I do rejoice in that is we have never had the shadow of a church friction during all my twenty three years of pastorate; God be praised for that. I have learned that the only way to avoid these frictions is to be thoughtful in your manner of speaking; it is not so much in what you say, but it is the way you say it. I have tried to avoid the unnecessary rebuke of the members and deacons of the church and speak to them privately instead of publicly of their deeds. One thing I am most displeased with during my administration that is the increase of the church; it has not been what my soul desired and yet we have had 430 additions which is equal to more than 18 members annually; if all these have been saved through ministry, God be praised for he is worthy. During the years we have raised commencing with six male members viz: C. Strickland, J. Lawrence, H. D. Cox, Richmond White R. Jackson and Thomas Jackson about \$16,000.00, upon an average of \$69.525 a year, built a fine cottage church with three compartments at the cost of \$3,000.00 and paid every dollar at the expiration of two years.

We had with us during the anniversary services such men as Rev. J. W. Lewis, Rev. E. W. Reed, Rev. Bray, Dr. D. A. Gaddie, Dr. John H. Frank, Rev. J. H. Perdue, Rev. C. M. Jacobs, Rev. S. Cosby, Rev. H. D. Cox, J. Wood, E. B. Milton, A. G. Hall and Revs. Howard and Floyd and Rev. H. Bowen, who acted as master of ceremonies and such laymen as Wm. H. Steward, J. W. Ramsey, Prof. Houser, I. Curtis and others. While the good brethren spoke of my work in the ministry and eulogized my work as a citizen I sat bathed in tears feeling myself unworthy as the many eulogistic remarks by these brethren. Brethren pray for me. We thank brother George Carman and the committee of 50 and the deacons and the good sisters for the elegant supper they served in my honor, may God bless you as he that giveth a cup of water in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you the shall not loose his reward.

The following are the donations to the pastor: Wm. Goldsberry \$1. C. Strickland \$1, George Marrs \$1, Tom Tobin \$1, Margaret Wood \$1, George Russel \$1, George Beasley \$1, Jack Johnson \$1, George R. Common \$1, Patsy Banks \$1.50, Oliva Wood 50 cents, Mrs. Patterson 50 cents, Lucy Smith 50 cents, Wm. Williams 50 cents, Lulu Bennett 50 cents, H. D. Cox 50 cents, Rosa D. Deukson 50 cents, Laura Noble 50 cents, Millie Ohizby 50 cents, H. Shipp 50 cents, E. Lawrence 50 cents, E. B. Milton 50 cents, Henry Bowser 50 cents, A. McCoy 50 cents, John McCoy 50 cents, E. B. Scott 50 cents, A. G. Williams 50 cents, Jerry Minor 50 cents, D. A. Gaddie 50 cents, I. Shipley 50 cents, Ida McCoy 50 cents, Hannah Lawrence 50 cents, Lucetta Smith 50 cents, C. Capitel 50c, M. Collins 25 cents, L. Shipley 25 cents, L. Bennett 25 cents, Control 30 cents, J. H. Perdue 25 cents, Sallie Phelps 25 cents, H. Green 25 cents, R. White 32 cents, C. M. Hammond 25 cents, R. Strickland 25 cents, A. G. Hall 25 cents, Eliza Norris 50 cents, Sarah Johnson 25 cents, Jeff Bell 25 cents, J. Hughes 25 cents, Lulu McCoy 25 cents, M. F. Smith 25 cents, L. Price 25 cents, Mollie Childs 25 cents, Addie Norris 25 cents, A. H. Weber 25 cents, Geo. Dorsey 25 cents, Sallie Robinson 25 cents, Malinda Long 25 cents, Ida

McCoy 50 cents, H. Vandyke 25 cents, M. L. Robinson 25 cents, Prof. W. H. Perry 50 cents.

The chairman of the committee George R. Common presented to me with an appropriate and neat speech snugg little sum of \$33.27 as a token of respect for my service for which I give them many thanks God bless them all.

E. P. MARRS, Lexington Ministers and Deacons Meeting.

This body met with the Evergreen Baptist church. Devotional exercises were conducted by Revs. Hawthorne and Mayfield. Members present: Revs. J. M. Mayfield, E. W. Hawthorne, B. M. Johnson, G. H. Tifford, R. T. Hoffman, J. F. K. Moreland, J. H. Henderson, L. C. Holloway, George Reid, P. H. Smith, I. F. Lindsey, A. W. Harris, C. D. Douglass, P. Vinegar I. Fuller.

Visitors Rev. B. S. Rawlings, M. Generals, D. Canada. Rev. B. S. Rawlings was chosen chairman.

REPORTS. Pleasant Green—S. S. 130, collection \$1.50, pastor preached, collection \$14.37.

White Sulphur—S. S. 30, collection 30c, pastor preached, collection \$3.66.

Forest Hill—S. S. 25, collection 30c, Rev. Jackson preached, collection \$1.60.

Evergreen—S. S. 32, collection 15c, Rev. J. H. Henderson preached collection \$9.72.

Winchester—First church S. S. 41, collection 62c, Rev. R. T. Hoffman D. D. preached, collection \$10.

Willard st—Rev. J. H. Henderson, J. W. Hopewell, M. M. Campbell and pastor preached, collection \$18.09.

Kirkville—Mt. Pleasant S. S. 60, collection \$2.19, Rev. J. F. K. Moreland preached, collection \$146.76.

Georgetown—First S. S. 60, collection 87c, Rev. L. C. Holloway preached, collection \$9.20.

Main st—S. S. 150, collection \$1.28; pastor preached, collection \$15.

Mortonsville—S. S. 42, collection 62 cents, Rev. I. F. Lindsey preached collection \$10.21.

Millville—Rev. P. H. Smith preached, collection \$9.60.

Watkinsville—Pastor preached, collection \$10.05.

Clintonsville—Pastor and Rev. R. Quarles preached, collection \$19.

Bracktown—S. S. 20 collection 20c, pastor preached, collection \$4.00.

Winchester—Washington street, Rev. Peter Vinegar preached, collection \$67.02.

The meeting voted unanimously to endorse the action of the First Baptist church, Winchester, upon having called to her pastorate Rev. R. T. Hoffman D. D. who previously pastored another church in the same city.

A special sermon by Rev. C. D. Douglass D. D. will be the order of the day for next meeting.

Next meeting with Shiloh, Benedict by Rev. C. D. Douglass. B. S. Rawlings, Mod. J. Francis Wilson, Sec.

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